

Semiconductors - The Crude Oil of the Telecommunications Revolution

Russ Bell, P.E.
Director, Communications Technology
Advanced Micro Devices, Inc.



AMD at a Glance

- Fourth Largest US Semiconductor Company
 - sales 2.4 Billion Dollars
 - Second largest supplier of 32 bit microprocessors
 - 40% of AMD business communications
 - Number one LAN IC supplier 1995*
 - Largest Line card circuit producer** 150 million shipped to 70 countries
 - CT2 cordless, 802.11 wireless LAN, ISDN, FDDI

^{*} per Dataquest, 1995

^{**} Non-captive



PCs and Communications

- Microprocessors Today 10 Million transistors
 - Allow communications problems to be solved in unique ways
 - PC technology will drive advanced communications
 - "Crude Oil" that will enable the communications revolution



Goals for Today

- Use AMD's cross-industry knowledge of PCs and communications to provide:
 - Historical perspective of advanced technologies
 - Current perspective on emerging technologies and opportunities
 - Scenarios for success



Semi- History

- 1984 ISDN Debuts
- Promises high bandwidth, improved voice quality, advanced services
- 1995 Installed base (US) 400k units
- Technical Issues
 - SS#7 and islands
 - Incompatible Layer 3 signaling software
 - Poor user demand and little application support
 - Clear channel 64k B channels via IXC
 - Difficult to configure RBOC and user



Semi-History

- FDDI
 - promised 100 Mbps
 - fault tolerant
 - Fiber based for improved BER
 - remains a distant second to Ethernet in installed nodes
- Token Ring 4/16
- Video-on-Demand
- Name your poison



What did we learn?

- Incumbent technology difficult to replace
- Forecast accuracy is questionable get closer to end-user
- Guaranteed Rate of return thwarted semiconductor and equipment development
- Standards are necessary evil
- Risk / reward sharing encourages efficient development of solutions



Opportunities

- Unbundled Local Loop
- Cable Modems
- Wide Area Bandwidth Exploitation
- Wireless
- ATM



Local Loop Unbundling

- Provides competitive service providers the toehold they need
- Target Markets
 - Telecommuting
 - Internet Access
 - Remote LAN access
- Incumbent LECs have heretofore focused on video delivery via copper.
 - High cost points
 - Condition of copper plant is an issue



Unbundling

- Estimates as high as 600 Billion Dollars undepreciated copper in US local loop
- VOD trials and Deathstar have slowed interest in video service
- OVP levels playing field
- Savvy players looking at ADSL derivatives
 - Levers the technology but at a different data rate / price point
 - Supports consistent wide area strategy



ADSL- Lite (TM)

- AMD is evaluating light version of ADSL
 - DMT or CAP16 based 384kbps full duplex
 - Low cost points
 - Operates over extended distances
 - Useful for access in noisy reverse channel in cable modem applications, Home area nets

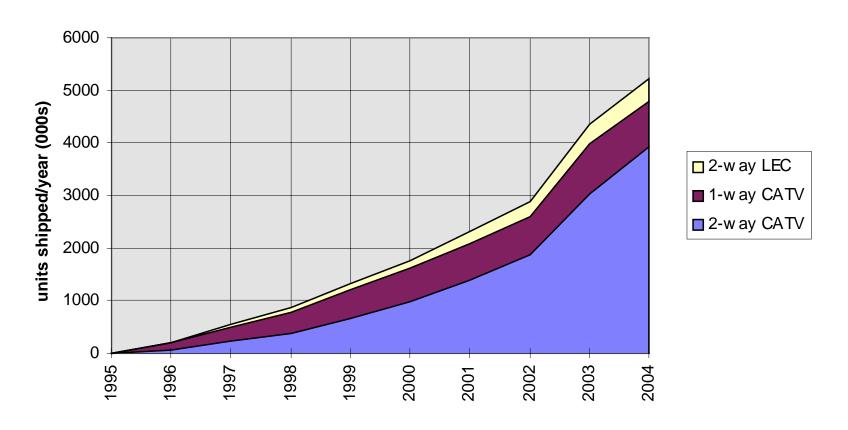


Cable Modems

- In theory:
 - uses modified cable infrastructure to deliver 1-4 Mbps per 6 MHz. channel downstream bandwidth shared among clusters of 500 homes.
 - Reverse Channel bandwidth varies from 384kbps to 1 Mbps
- In reality
 - current installed equipment is not suitable
 - infrastructure upgrades are expensive \$500-\$1500 per subscriber
 - MSOs are in need of cash (S.652 will help)
 - volumes expected to be near 3M units by 2000



Cable Modem Market Update



Source: Probe Research (preliminary)



Cable Modems

- AMD invests in core technology
 - supports advanced services in cable environment
 - joint investment with equipment manufacturer and networking partner

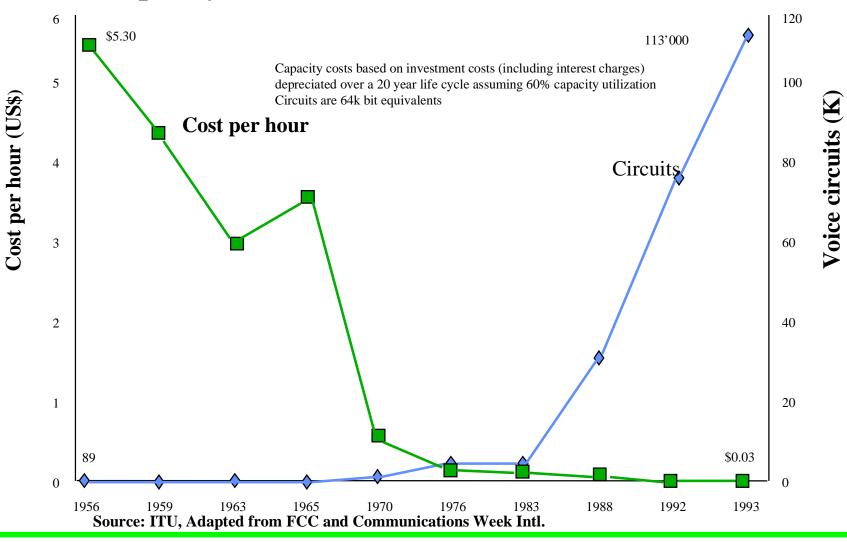


Exploit the bandwidth

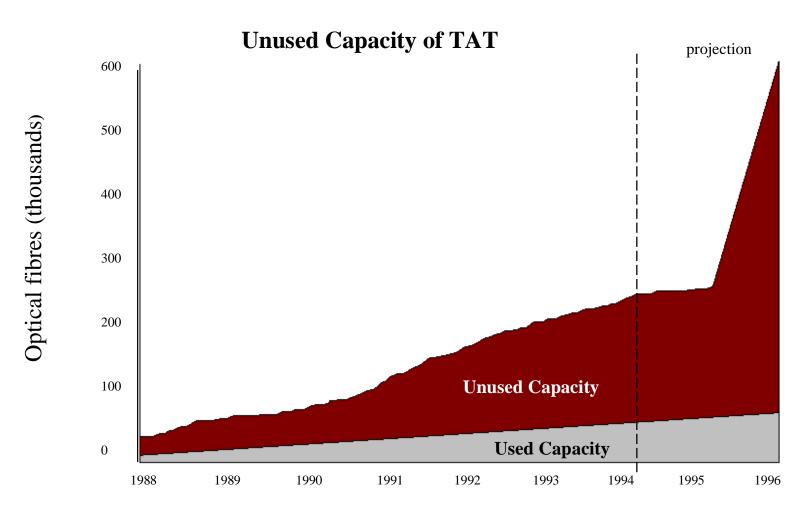
- Internet has destroyed concept of "distance based billing"
 - EMAILS, voice mails, and voice calls actually travel via TCP/IP today
- Will new entrants enable wide area connectivity via reduced price points?
- Wide area bandwidth increases drive the 'last mile' technologies -- AMD invests here



Capacity Cost and Growth, TAT Cables







Source: ITU, Adapted from FCC and Communications Week Intl.



Wireless

- PCS auction 'winners' scramble
- Too many providers chasing too few customers
- Incumbents (cellular) will be tough to dislodge
 - marketing
 - existing customers
 - economies of scale in handset manufacturing
- Advanced Technologies have failed to deliver and have fragmented development efforts
 - economies of scale suffer with fragmentation
 - market instability delays development



ATM- Another Technical Morass?

- Introduced with much fanfare similar to ISDN
- "Last Networking Technology"
- Flexible
 - supports voice, data, video
 - scaleable
 - compatible with SONET
- Complexity is high
- Interoperability remains an issue
 - signaling
 - congestion control



ATM@AMD

- Invested in switching technology
 - IP allows scalability with constant cost/port
 - No products announced awaiting volume
- Switching in the PC
 - Route Streams of data to appropriate subsystems
 - Avoid burdening processor with data sources that do not need or require overhead of protocol stacks
 - Truest form of convergence Communications circuitry embedded on the processor's bus



Likely Scenarios

- Pipe to the home fattens
- Wireless Grows both cellular and FRA technologies
- PCS entrants scramble
- Deregulation fuels ROI erosion in verticals and drives tightening in cost structures of service providers and equipment manufacturers

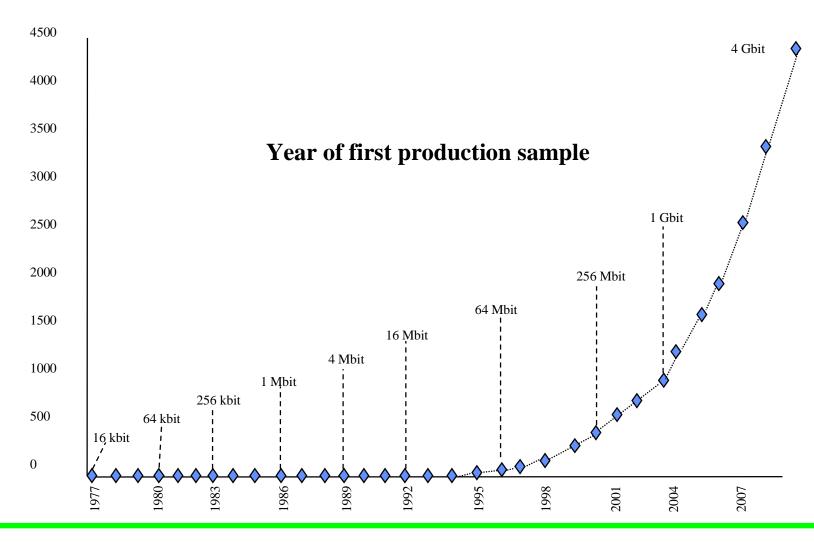


Likely Scenarios

- Distance based billing begins to change
- Old technology hangs on longer than anticipated
- Opportunities exist for strange bedfellows



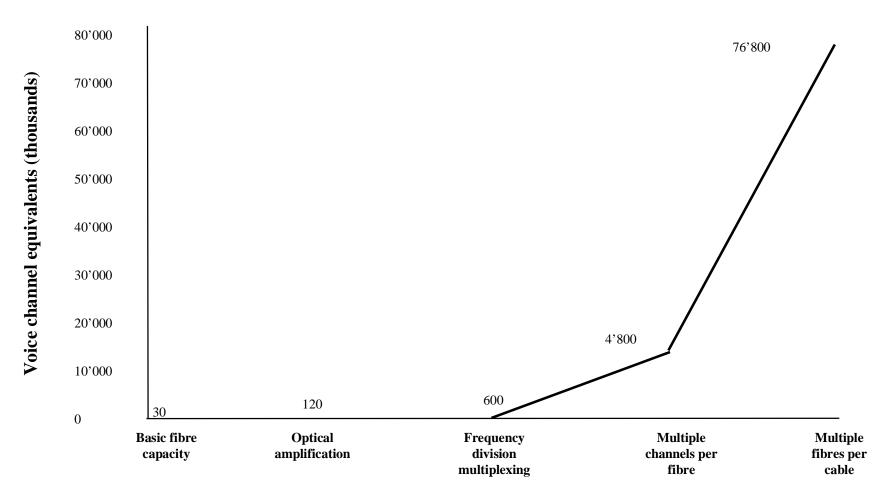
Mbit of storage capacity



Communications Technology, AMD

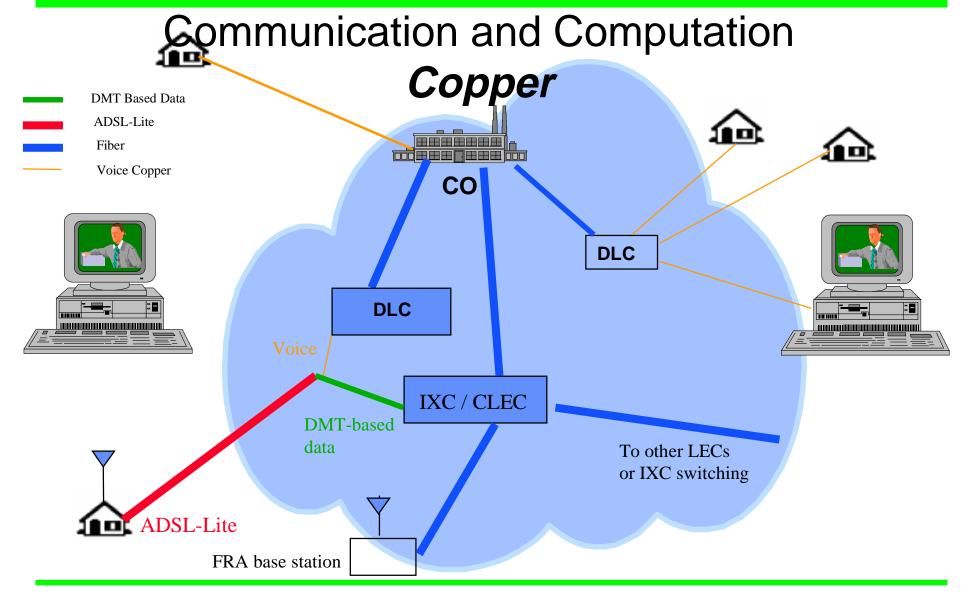


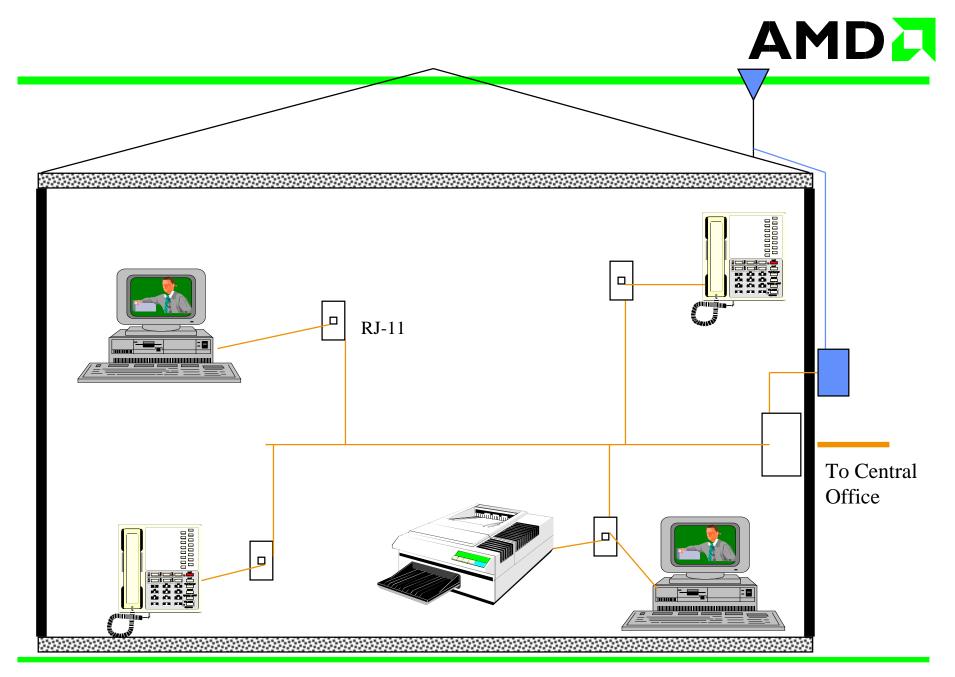
Voice Capacity as a function of Technology



Source: ITU, Adapted from FCC and Communications Week Intl



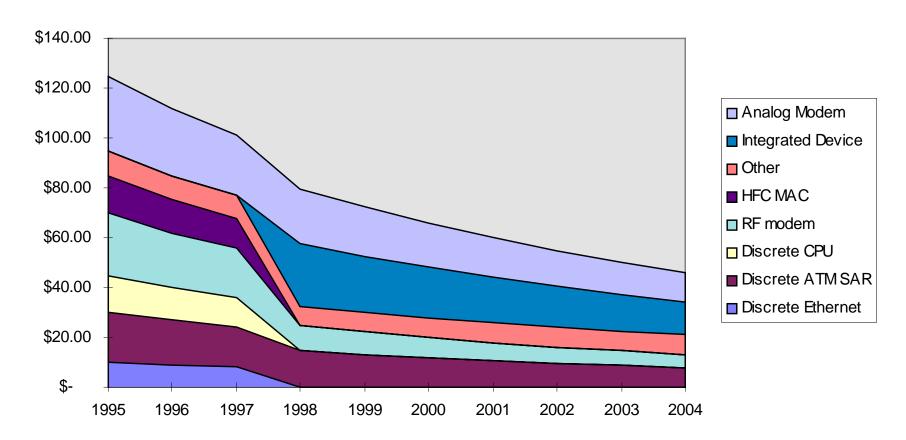




Communications Technology, AMD



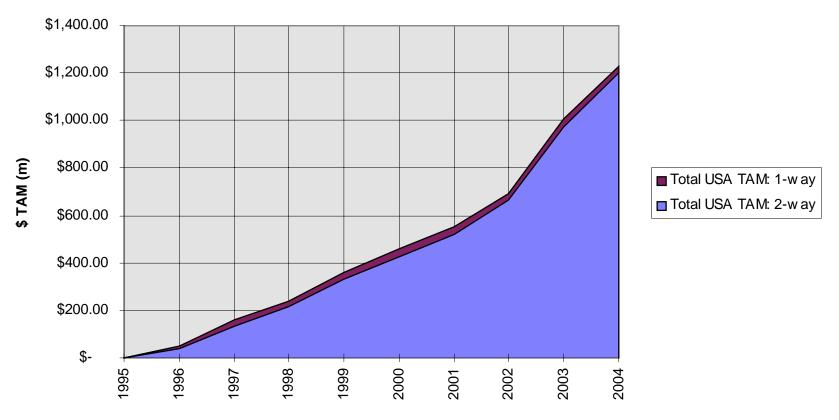
Crude Silicon Breakdown



Source: AM, Probe Research (preliminary)



Cable Modem Si Opportunities



Source: AM, Probe Research (preliminary)

- Ethernet, ATM-SAR, CPUs, Memory, RF components
- 1-way modems add an analog modem



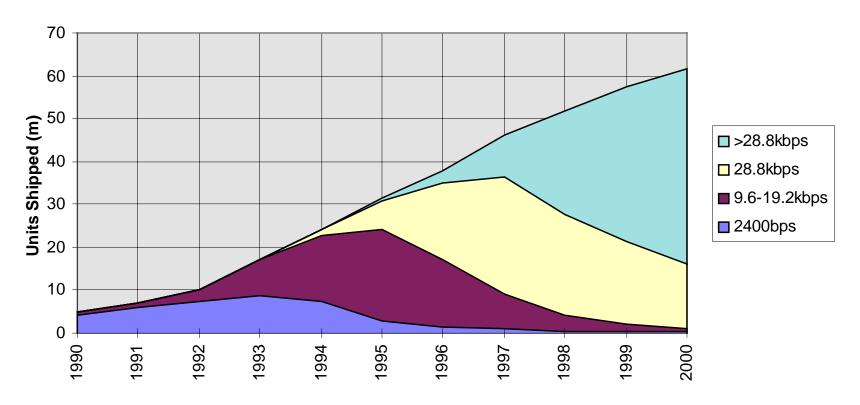
Other Technologies

■ Intercast

- Intel and co ...
- data embedded within the VBI of NTSC/PAL video
- supports existing infrastructure
 - » large near interactive down stream pipe
 - » telephone backchannel
 - » satellite
- still requires Internet PoP account
- convergence with MPEG-2 digital video service



PC Modem Shipments/Trends



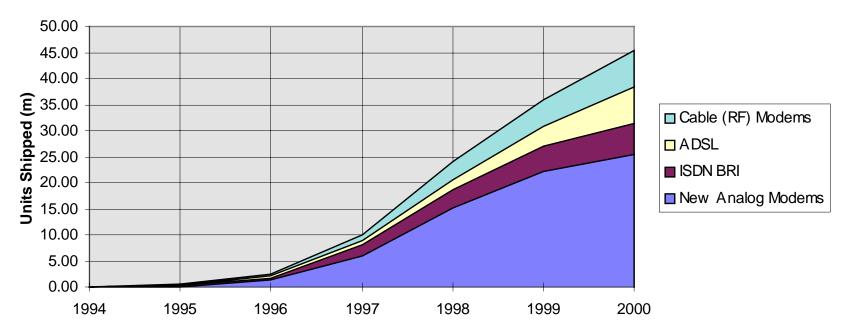
> 28.8kbps includes "higher speed analog modems, cable RF modems. digital alternatives, or a combination of all"

Source: Vision Quest 2000



Other Modems Shipments/Trends

Higher Speed Modems



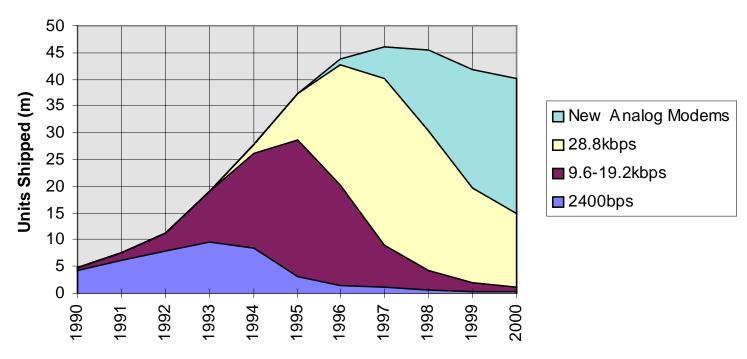
- Optimistic ADSL estimates from Forward Concepts
- Basic rate ISDN estimated from 2/3rds estimate of installed RBOC lines

Source: AMD-2 Strategic Mktg, Vision Quest 2000, Forward Concepts, Probe Research



Analog Modem Shipments/Trends

Analog Modem Shipments

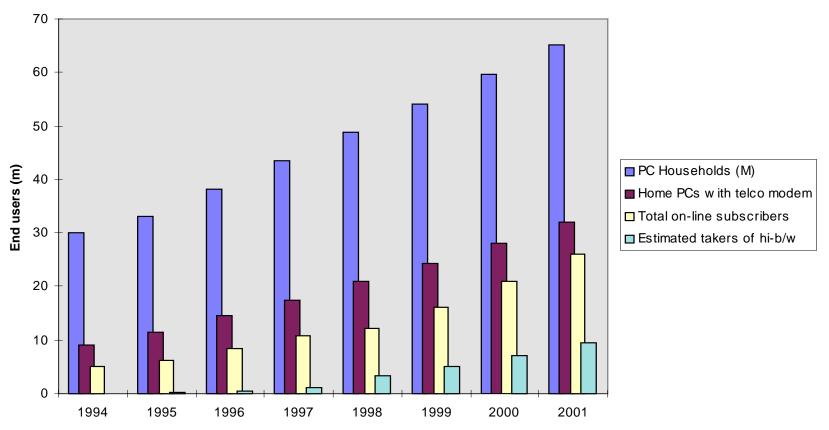


Source: AMD-2 Strategic Mktg, Vision Quest 2000, Forward Concepts, Probe Research

- Removes estimates for higher bandwidth modems
- New analog includes V.34bis, DSVD plus feature enhanced analog modems



High Speed/Broadband On-line Market



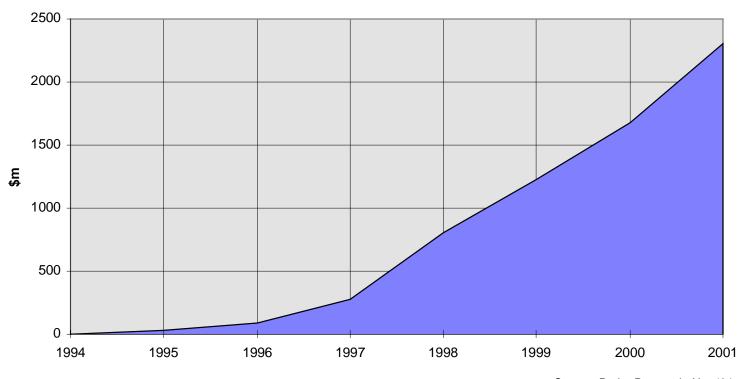
Source: Probe Research, Nov '94

Around 1.15m broadband access modems estimated by 1997, rising to 9.59m by 2001



Incremental Revenue Potential for Broadband Providers

Total Incremental Revenue (\$m)



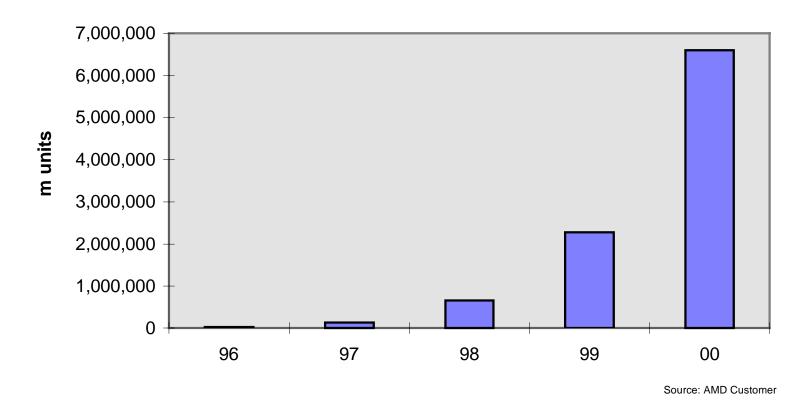
Source: Probe Research, Nov '94

Note: Assumes a \$20 average subscription to on-line service



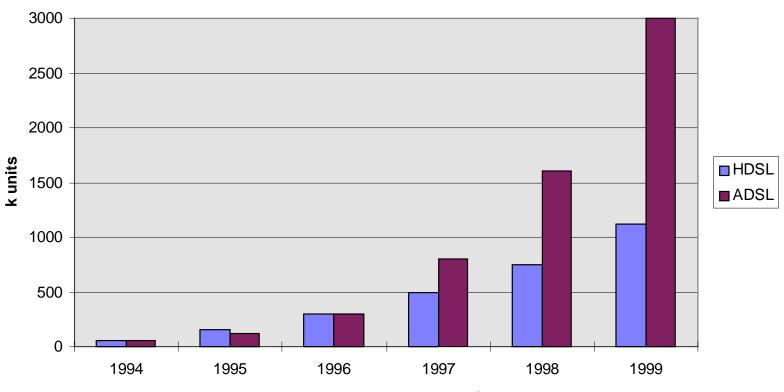
Cable Modem IC Shipment Estimate

Total Unit Volume





HDSL/ADSL IC Shipments



- Total ADSL IC revenues '99 \$105m
- Total HDSL IC revenues '99 \$51.7m

Source: Forward Concepts



Real Cost of Fiber

Assume

- 36 Fiber cables* at 2.4 Gbps per cable
- Translates to 1.35 million 64 kbps channels
- Fully outfitted with lasers, repeaters, power supplies, surveying, trenching and trucking
- Cost 40-60 Million Dollars



Real Cost of Fiber

- Assume technical life of circuit is 20-25 years
- This turns out to be 3-5 dollars per circuit per year
 - 60M\$/1.35M channels/25 years = < \$2 per year
- Providing the telcos with a profit margin, assume they could charge 10-20 dollars per year per circuit
- Actual cost ---- \$15980* per year per 64kbps circuit
- At capacity, revenue 21.5 billion per year

^{*} Stewart Fist 1996 -- www.abc.net.au/http/sfist/cablebw/htm



Real Cost of Fiber

- Sanity Check on the "real cost"
 - -Using ITU numbers, there are 450 "dark fibers" in TAT cables.
 - -Using a similar thought process, entire capacity generates \$268 billion**per year
 - -This revenue is greater than the combined sales of the top 10 communications equipment companies world wide

** Source: AMD, ITU